

ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH PERMITS ARE REQUIRED

COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGIC - For a person aboard a vessel that is operating as a charter vessel or headboat to fish or possess a coastal migratory pelagic fish in or from the EEZ, a permit must be issued to the vessel and be on board.

KING MACKEREL - For a person aboard a vessel in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) to be eligible for exemption from the bag limits and to fish under a commercial allocation for king mackerel, a commercial vessel permit must be issued to the vessel and be on board. Permits for king mackerel are under a moratorium. No new vessel may be permitted except by transfer of an existing permit. To transfer a permit, the old permit must be returned with the application.

GILLNET ENDORSEMENT FOR KING MACKEREL - For a person aboard a vessel in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) to use a run-around gillnet for king mackerel in the southern Florida west coast subzone, a commercial vessel permit for king mackerel with a gillnet endorsement must be issued to the vessel and be on board. Permits for gillnet endorsement for king mackerel are under a moratorium. No new vessel may be permitted except by transfer of an existing permit. To transfer a permit, the old permit must be returned with the application.

REEF FISH (Gulf of Mexico) - As a prerequisite to sell reef fish in or from the EEZ and to be eligible for exemption from the bag limits, a vessel permit must be issued to the vessel and be on board. Permits for the reef fish fishery are under a moratorium. No new vessels may be permitted except by transfer of an existing permit. To transfer a permit, the old permit must be returned with the application.

For a person aboard a vessel that is operating as a charter vessel or headboat to fish for or possess a reef fish in or from the EEZ of the Gulf of Mexico, a permit must be issued to the vessel and be on board.

ROCK SHRIMP (South Atlantic) - For a person aboard a fishing vessel to fish for rock shrimp in the EEZ or possess rock shrimp in or from the EEZ, a vessel permit for rock shrimp must be issued to the vessel and be on board.

SNAPPER-GROUPER EXCLUDING WRECKFISH (South Atlantic) - For a person aboard a vessel in the EEZ to be eligible for exemption from the bag limits, to engage in a directed fishery for tilefish or to use a sea bass pot, a vessel permit must be issued to the vessel and be on board. Permits for the South Atlantic snapper-grouper fishery are under a moratorium. No new vessels may be permitted except by transfer of existing permits. A person desiring to acquire a limited access transferable permit for South Atlantic snapper-grouper must obtain and exchange two such permits for one new permit. The old permits must be returned with the application.

For a person aboard a vessel that is operating as a charter vessel or headboat to fish for or possess a snapper-grouper in or from the EEZ off the southern Atlantic states, a permit must be issued to the vessel and be on board.

SHARK - As a prerequisite to sell a shark in or from the EEZ and to be eligible for exemption from the bag limits, a vessel permit must be issued to the vessel and be on board. Permits for the shark fishery are under a moratorium. No new vessels may be permitted except by transfer of an existing limited entry permit. To transfer a permit, the old permit must be returned with the application.

SPANISH MACKEREL - For a person aboard a vessel in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) to be eligible for exemption from the bag limits and to fish under a commercial allocation for Spanish mackerel, a commercial vessel permit must be issued to the vessel and be on board.

SPINY LOBSTER - For a vessel fishing in the EEZ off states other than Florida to be exempt from the daily catch and possession limit, a commercial spiny lobster permit must be issued to the vessel and be on board. Florida's requirements apply to a vessel fishing in the EEZ off Florida.

To possess a separated spiny lobster tail in or from the EEZ, a tail-separation permit must be issued to the vessel and be on board. For fishing activities in the EEZ off states other than Florida, the tailing permit must be accompanied by a commercial spiny lobster permit.

SWORDFISH - To fish for or possess swordfish in or from the North Atlantic Ocean, or take swordfish as bycatch, whether or not retained, a vessel permit must be issued to the vessel and be on board. Permits for the swordfish fishery are under a moratorium. No new vessels may be permitted except by transfer of an existing limited entry permit. To transfer a permit, the old permit must be returned with the application.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Type or print legibly in ink. Incomplete or unreadable applications will be returned.
2. **When renewing your permit, make corrections by drawing a line through any incorrect entry and typing or printing the correct information above it.** Complete all lines or sections that apply for the permit requested. Select only those fisheries which you meet the eligibility requirements and you expect the vessel to participate. You may be selected to maintain and submit certain statistical reports, including fishing vessel logbooks, for each fishery in which the vessel is permitted. **If you have been selected to report, a renewal application will not be considered complete until all required reports have been received.**
3. Each application must be accompanied by a **legible** copy of the vessel's **current** Coast Guard certificate of documentation or, if not documented, its state registration certificate.
4. The application fee is **\$50 for one fishery** and **\$20 for each additional fishery** and is **non-refundable**. A check or money order must accompany each application payable to the **U.S. TREASURY**. The fee for a replacement permit is **\$18**.
5. An applicant for a vessel permit in a fishery for which there is an earned income requirement must provide documentation of having met that requirement. **SEE EARNED INCOME REQUIREMENTS FOR PERMITS.**
6. Submit with the application a **separate check or money order for trap/pot tags (\$1.10 per tag) for use in the reef fish and snapper-grouper fisheries payable to FLOY TAG**. Tags will be mailed directly to you from Floy Tag and will not accompany the permit. If your application for a permit in a trap/pot fishery is denied, your check/money order for tags will be returned to you.
7. Mail the application, copy of documentation/state registration, check(s)/money order(s) and, if required, income tax forms/schedules to: **NMFS (F/SER22), 9721 EXECUTIVE CENTER DRIVE N., ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33702**. Questions may be phoned to 727/570-5326 between 8am - 4:30pm EST.
8. **If applying for a TRANSFER of a GULF OF MEXICO REEF FISH, KING MACKEREL, or GILLNET ENDORSEMENT FOR KING MACKEREL PERMIT, please provide the following information:**

Transfer of Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish, King Mackerel, or Gillnet Endorsement for King Mackerel Permit - Same Owner: An owner of a permitted vessel may transfer the vessel permit to another vessel owned by same owner by returning the existing permit with an application for a vessel permit for the replacement vessel.

Transfer of Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish or King Mackerel Permit - New Owner: A person purchasing a vessel with a permit or purchasing a permit only may transfer the permit and renew it for the first calendar year after the purchase without meeting the earned income requirement, provided the previous owner (not operator) met that requirement. To transfer, original permit with signatures of both parties on back of permit, and a copy of the vessel documentation or state registration must accompany a completed application. To renew the permit for the second calendar year after the purchase, the new owner must have met the earned income requirement not later than the first full calendar year after the purchase.

Transfer of Guinnet Endorsement for King mackerel Permit - New Owner - This permit may be transferred upon change of ownership of a permitted vessel with such endorsement from one to another of the following: husband, wife, son, daughter, brother, sister, mother, or father.

9. If applying for a **TRANSFER of a SOUTH ATLANTIC SNAPPER-GROUPER PERMIT**, please provide the following information:

Transfer of Unlimited Permit - Same Owner: An owner of a permitted vessel may transfer the vessel permit to another vessel owned by the same owner by returning the existing permit with an application for a vessel permit for the replacement vessel.

Transfer of Unlimited Permit - New Owner: A person desiring to acquire a limited access transferable permit for South Atlantic snapper-grouper permit must obtain and exchange two such permits for one new permit. The two original permits with signatures of both parties on back and a copy of the vessel documentation or state registration must accompany a completed application.

Transfer of 225-pound Trip Limit Permit - Same Owner: An owner of a vessel with a trip limit permit may request that the RA transfer the permit to another vessel owned by the same entity provided the length and gross tonnage of the replacement vessel are equal or less than the length and gross tonnage of the replaced vessel. Return the existing permit with an application for a vessel permit for the replacement vessel.

Transfer of 225-pound Trip Limit Permit New Owner: The permit is not transferable to a new owner.

10. If applying for a **TRANSFER of a Atlantic SHARK or SWORDFISH PERMIT**, please provide the following information:

Transfer of Permit - Same Owner: An owner of a permitted vessel may transfer the vessel permit to another vessel owned by same owner by returning the existing permit with an application for a vessel permit for the replacement vessel. Such transfers would be subject to upgrading restrictions. Swordfish handgear permits are transferable, but only for use with handgear.

Transfer of Permit - New Owner: A person purchasing a vessel with a permit or purchasing a permit only may transfer the permit. To transfer, original permit with signatures of both parties on back of permit, bill of sale, and a copy of the vessel documentation or state registration must accompany a completed application. Such transfers would be subject to upgrading restrictions. Swordfish handgear permits are transferable, but only for use with handgear.

11. If you would like your permit and associated documents returned to you via overnight mail, enclose a **FEDERAL EXPRESS** air bill, complete with your delivery address and your FEDEX account number or credit card number, with your application.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

SECTION 1 Enter name, official number, and length of vessel as they appear on the certificate of documentation or, if not documented, on the state registration certificate. Provide the engine horsepower and length for the vessel. Under "Home Port", enter the city and state where the vessel is customarily kept, not necessarily the home port on a certificate of documentation.

SECTION 2 Provide the name, address, telephone number and other identifying information of the person shown as the “owner” on the vessel's certificate of documentation or, if not documented, on the state registration certificate. If the person shown as the “owner” is a corporation or partnership, enter the Federal ID number and date the corporation/partnership was formed. Any change in the information in Section 2 must be reported to the NMFS Regional Administrator within 30 days after such change.

SECTION 3 COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY WHEN THE OWNER DOES NOT MEET AN APPLICABLE EARNED INCOME REQUIREMENT AND THE OPERATOR DOES MEET THAT REQUIREMENT. Any change in the information in Section 3 must be reported to the NMFS Regional Administrator within 30 days after such change.

SECTION 4 COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY WHEN THE VESSEL IS BEING OPERATED UNDER A LEASE OR OTHER WRITTEN MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT THAT BESTOWS CONTROL OVER THE DESTINATION, FUNCTION OR OPERATION OF THE VESSEL TO A PERSON OTHER THAN THE PERSON SHOWN IN SECTION 2. Provide the name, address, telephone number and other identifying information of the controlling person. Enter the date of expiration of the lease or written management agreement that transferred control of the vessel from the person shown in Section 2. If such lease or written management agreement exists, the controlling person is the owner for the purposes of the permit. Any change in the information in Section 4 must be reported to the NMFS Regional Administrator within 30 days after such change.

SECTION 5 Indicate only those fisheries that are required and for which the owner or operator qualifies, specifically including any applicable earned income requirement. Each permit obtained may entail additional reporting requirements, including a daily fishing vessel logbook record.

SECTION 6 Complete this section only if you fish with traps/pots in the reef fish fishery of the Gulf of Mexico or the snapper-grouper fishery off the southern Atlantic states. A Federal tag is required for each trap/pot used at a fee of \$1.10 per tag.

SECTION 7 The information in this section is a data collection requirement but does not effect the type of permit issued.

SECTION 8 Complete this section if applying for a swordfish or shark permit.

SECTION 9 An application for a charter boat, spiny lobster tailing, rock shrimp or swordfish permit must be signed by the vessel owner. An application for a permit for which there is an earned income requirement must be signed by the **qualifying applicant**, that is, the owner, an officer or shareholder of a corporate-owned vessel, a general partner of a partnership-owned vessel or the operator. A permit for a fishery for which the operator is the qualifying applicant is valid only when the named operator is on board and in charge of the vessel.

EARNED INCOME OR GROSS SALES REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMERCIAL PERMITS

	KING & SPANISH MACKEREL	REEF FISH (GULF OF MEXICO)	SPINY LOBSTER
Percentage of earned income	At least 25%	More than 50%	At least 10%
Gross sales alternative	More than \$10,000 in sales of fish	N/A	N/A
Source of earned income	Commercial, charter, or headboat	Commercial, charter, or headboat	Sale of catch
Timeframeforqualification	One of three years prior to application	Either of two years prior to application	Year prior to application

The following fisheries do not require any earned income:

Charter for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Fish
Gulf of Mexico Charter/Headboat for Reef Fish
South Atlantic Charter for Snapper-Grouper
Spiny Lobster Tailing
continued on next page

South Atlantic Rock Shrimp
Unlimited South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper excluding Wreckfish
225 lbs. Trip Limit South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper excluding Wreckfish
Swordfish
Shark

Documentation of earned income must include the following information: all wages or salaries earned by the applicant; any business income or loss and type of business of the applicant; gross sales from fishing of a sole proprietorship business of the applicant; and net profit or loss from fishing of a sole proprietorship business of the applicant. The documentation must specify the calendar year for which it applies. Instead of the individual items of information specified above, the applicant may submit copies of those portions of the individual's income tax return that show those items, i.e., Pages 1 & 2 of Form 1040, W-2s, Schedule C and, if applicable, Schedule E, but should obliterate information that is personally private such as social security numbers.

For a corporation/partnership owned vessel, percentage of earned income requirement must be met by an officer or shareholder of the corporation, a general partner or the vessel operator. When an officer/shareholder/partner documents his/her earned income from fishing, the corresponding corporate or partnership documented income, including shareholder's share of income, must be submitted. The documentation must specify the calendar year for which it applies. Instead of these individual items of information, the officer/shareholder/partner may submit copies of his/her individual income tax return and the corresponding corporate or partnership income tax return, including Schedule K-1, but should obliterate information that is personally private such as social security numbers.

If using gross sales alternative, the applicant must submit copies of receipts indicating sales of fish harvested from the owner's, operator's, corporation's or partnership's vessel for a specified year. Instead of such receipts, the applicant may submit copies of those portions of the individual/corporation income tax return that show this information, i.e., Pages 1 & 2 of Schedule C, C-EZ, Form 1120, 1120A, 1120S or 1065, but should obliterate information that is personally private such as social security numbers.

Previously submitted documentation that meets the time frame for qualification need not be resubmitted. Renewal of a permit that was issued based on the earned income of an operator must be accompanied by new documentation of earned income when a new or additional operator meets the requirements. Copies of income tax forms and schedules and all information submitted for documentation or earned income from fishing or gross sales of fish are treated as confidential.

KNOWINGLY SUPPLYING FALSE INFORMATION OR WILLFULLY OVERVALUING ANY FISHING INCOME FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING A PERMIT IS A VIOLATION OF FEDERAL LAW PUNISHABLE BY A FINE AND/OR IMPRISONMENT.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 20 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other suggestions for reducing this burden to Edward E. Burgess, National Marine Fisheries Service, F/SER22, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

The National Marine Fisheries Service requires this information for the conservation and management of marine fishery resources. The data reported will be used to develop, implement, and monitor fishery management activities for a variety of other uses. Responses to this collection are required to obtain or retain a fisheries permit under the Magnuson - Stevens Act. All data submitted will be handled as confidential material in accordance with NOAA Administrative Orders. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subjected to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

LIMITED ENTRY FOR CERTAIN SOUTHEASTERN FISHERIES

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Southeast Regional Office, wishes to remind interested parties that limited entry programs are in place or under consideration for the following commercial and recreational fisheries operating in Federal waters of the southeastern U.S. *Anyone intending to purchase vessels or gear for the purpose of entering one of these fisheries is advised to pay close attention to the following information.*

Gulf Reef Fish - The commercial Gulf reef fish fishery is closed to new entrants through December 31, 2000, except by transfer of an existing permit to another vessel.

No new commercial red snapper licenses are being issued. Class 1 red snapper licenses allow a 2,000 pound trip limit; Class 2 licenses allow a 200 pound trip limit. An existing license may be transferred to another vessel.

No new fish trap endorsements are being issued. Use of fish traps will be prohibited throughout the Gulf of Mexico exclusive economic zone after February 7, 2007. Existing fish trap endorsements are transferable to other reef fish permitted vessels through February 7, 1999. After that date, transfer of fish trap endorsements is allowed only under certain circumstances.

A control date of November 18, 1998, has been established for the recreational-for-hire (charter vessel and headboat) fishery for reef fish and coastal migratory pelagic species in Federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Anyone entering this fishery after its control date may not be assured of future participation if a limited entry program is adopted.

Gulf Stone Crab - There is a moratorium on Federal registration of commercial stone crab vessels through June 30, 2002. The Gulf Council and the State of Florida are considering a limited entry program. A control date of July 24, 1995, has been established for this fishery. Anyone entering the fishery after its control date may not be assured of future participation if a limited entry program is adopted in Federal waters.

South Atlantic Golden Crab - The commercial fishery is closed to new entrants except by transfer of an existing permit or permits.

South Atlantic Rock Shrimp - A control date of April 4, 1994, has been established for the commercial fishery. Anyone entering the fishery after its control date may not be assured of future participation if a limited entry program is adopted.

South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper - The commercial fishery is closed to new entrants unless they can obtain two “transferable” permits to exchange for one new permit.

A control date of April 23, 1997, has been established for the commercial black sea bass pot fishery. Anyone entering this fishery after its control date may not be assured of future participation if a limited entry program is implemented.

South Atlantic Wreckfish - The commercial fishery is closed to new entrants except through purchase of individual transferable quota shares.

Gulf and South Atlantic Coastal Migratory Pelagics - The commercial fishery for king mackerel is closed to new entrants through October 15, 2000, except by transfer of an existing permit to another vessel.

A control date of July 2, 1993, has been established for the commercial Spanish mackerel fishery. Anyone entering this fishery after its control date may not be assured of future participation if a limited entry system is adopted.

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council has requested that NMFS implement control dates for the commercial dolphin-wahoo fishery in Federal waters of the South Atlantic region and the Atlantic group king mackerel gillnet fishery north of Cape Lookout, NC.

A control date of November 18, 1998, has been established for the recreational-for-hire (charter vessel and headboat) fishery for reef fish and coastal migratory pelagic species in Federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Anyone entering this fishery after its control date may not be assured of future participation if a limited entry program is adopted.

Gulf and South Atlantic Spiny Lobster - Florida’s commercial gear identification and trap certificate/reduction programs are in effect in Federal waters off Florida. Contact the Florida Marine Fisheries Commission at 850/487-0554.

Highly Migratory Species - For information on limited entry programs for shark, billfish, swordfish, or tuna fisheries, please contact the Highly Migratory Species Division at 727/570-5447 or 301/713-2347.

NMFS is an agency of the Commerce Department’s National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.